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DEC 24 2003

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|  |   |                               |   |   |                   |
|--|---|-------------------------------|---|---|-------------------|
| <b>AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER (Small Entity)</b>   |   |                               |   | Docket No.<br><b>06570.002002</b>   |                   |
| Applicant(s): <b>Teodulo Aves, et al.</b>  |   |                               |   |   |                   |
| Serial No.<br><b>09/994,320</b>  | Filing Date<br><b>November 26, 2001</b> | Examiner<br><b>Ann Y. Lam</b> |   | Group Art Unit<br><b>1641</b>   |                   |
| Invention: <b>MEDICAL NEEDLE</b>   |   |                               |   | <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> <b>RECEIVED</b><br/><br/> <b>DEC 31 2003</b> </div> |                   |
| <u>TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:</u>  |   |                               |   | <b>TECH CENTER 1600/2900</b>  |                   |
| Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.  |   |                               |   |   |                   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Small Entity status of this application has been established under 37 CFR 1.27 by a verified statement previously submitted.   |   |                               |   |   |                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> A verified statement to establish Small Entity status under 37 FR 1.27 is enclosed.   |   |                               |   |   |                   |
| The fee has been calculated and is transmitted as shown below.   |   |                               |   |   |                   |
| <b>CLAIMS AS AMENDED</b>   |   |                               |   |   |                   |
|  | CLAIMS REMAINING<br>AFTER AMENDMENT     | HIGHEST #<br>PREV. PAID FOR   | NUMBER EXTRA<br>CLAIMS PRESENT  | RATE  | ADDITIONAL<br>FEE |
| TOTAL CLAIMS   | 21 -                                    | 21 =                          | 0 x   | \$9.00  | \$0.00            |
| INDEP. CLAIMS  | 4 -                                     | 4 =                           | 0 x   | \$43.00   | \$0.00            |
| Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/>   |   |                               |   |   | \$0.00            |
| <b>TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT</b>   |   |                               |   |   | <b>\$0.00</b>     |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No additional fee is required for amendment.   |   |                               |   |   |                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Please charge Deposit Account No. _____ in the amount of _____  |   |                               |   |   |                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of _____ to cover the filing fee is enclosed.   |   |                               |   |   |                   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. <b>50-0591</b>   |   |                               |   |   |                   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16.  |   |                               |   |   |                   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17.  |   |                               |   |   |                   |
| <br>Signature<br><b>Jonathan P. Osha, Reg. No.: 33,986</b><br><b>Rosenthal &amp; Osha L.L.P.</b><br><b>1221 McKinney Street, Suite 2800</b><br><b>Houston, Texas 77010</b><br><br><b>Telephone No.: (713) 228-8600</b><br><b>Facsimile No.: (713) 228-8778</b> |   |                               | Dated: <b>December 23, 2003</b>   |   |                   |
| CC:  |   |                               | I certify that this document and fee is being deposited on _____ with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail under 37 C.F.R. 1.8 and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.<br><br>_____<br>Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence<br><br>_____<br>Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence |   |                   |



**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL" (37 CFR 1.10)**

**Applicant(s):** Teodulo Aves, et al.

**Docket No.**  
06570.002002

| Serial No. | Filing Date       | Examiner   | Group Art Unit |
|------------|-------------------|------------|----------------|
| 09/994,320 | November 26, 2001 | Ann Y. Lam | 1641           |

**Invention:**

**MEDICAL NEEDLE**

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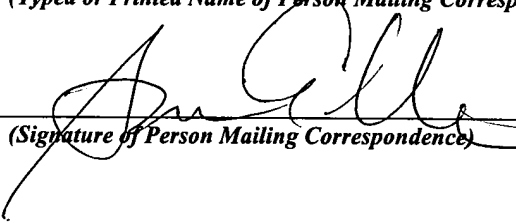
TECH CENTER 1600/2900

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